

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 XMB-02 SS-15 OIC-02 IO-10 COME-00

TRSE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OES-03

FEAE-00 SP-02 CIEP-01 /065 R

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NEA/INS:RMORLEY

EXIM:EHOUSTON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, EGEN, IN, US

SUBJECT: AGENDA FOR ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISSION
MEETING

REF: A) NEW DELHI 17286
B) NEW DELHI 16847
C) NEW DELHI 18845

1. DEPARTMENT AGREES THAT FORMAL AGENDA BE LIMITED TO
BARE BONES FORMAT PRESENTED IN REF. A, WITH UNDER-
STANDING THAT SUBJECTS PREVIOUSLY AGREED TO WILL BE
COVERED UNDER THESE HEADINGS.

2. WE ARE PROCEEDING WITH ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR
JANUARY 20-21 MEETING, AND WOULD LIKE ESTIMATE OF SIZE,
AND LISTING OF KNOWN PARTICIPANTS IN GOI DELEGATION. U.S.
DELEGATION WILL NUMBER APPROXIMATELY TEN, WITH STATE,
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COMMERCE, TREASURY, AND EXIM REPRESENTED.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ADDITIONAL EMBASSY COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC AGENDA TOPICS. IN PARTICULAR, WE NEED EMBASSY CONTRIBUTION ON TOPICS "INTERNAL GOI PRICING POLICY" AND "FOREIGN EXCHANGE REGULATION ACT" IN

ORDER TO COMPLETE POSITION PAPERS BEING PREPARED HERE.

4. FOLLOWING IS PRELIMINARY COMMENT ON TWO GOI PROPOSALS (REFS B AND C):

A. REGARDING MODALITIES OF EXIM FINANCING, EXIM WILL BE DISCUSSING THIS WITH INDIAN EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVE. EXIM CONCURS IN PLACING TOPIC ON SUBCOMMISSION AGENDA UNDER GENERAL BILATERAL TRADE HEADING. EXIM EMPHASIZES, HOWEVER, THAT ITS REGULAR PROCEDURES MUST BE FOLLOWED, AND IS AWAITING COMMUNICATION FROM GOI AND TIRE COMPANIES INVOLVED. FYI EXIM WILL REVIEW GENERAL PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO INDIA, AND WILL MAKE PRESENTATION IN SUBCOMMISSION END FYI.

B. REGARDING PHOSPHORIC ACID PROPOSAL, (REF. C), USG IS, OF COURSE, IN NO POSITION TO GUARANTEE GOI PERFORMANCE. WHILE DEPARTMENT AWARE OF NO SIMILAR LONG TERM PURCHASE COMMITMENT SITUATIONS FOR PRECEDENT, WE ARE CONSIDERING VARIOUS IDEAS, INCLUDING BANK APPROACH, WHICH WOULD MEET LEGITIMATE WORRIES OF BOTH SIDES. USG SYMPATHETIC TO GOI PROBLEM, BUT UNDERSTANDS FREEPORT SULFUR CONCERN.

5. WHILE DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE GENERAL LIST OF TYPES OF PROJECTS CURRENTLY BEING UNDERTAKEN OR SOUGHT BY US FIRMS IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS IRAN AND SAUDI ARABIA, WE QUESTION WHETHER INDIAN COOPERATION IN THESE HIGH-TECHNOLOGY AREAS REALISTIC. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE BEFORE MEETING EMBASSY APPRAISAL OF INDIAN POTENTIAL IN COOPERATIVE VENTURES IN MID EAST. ILLUSTRATIVE AREAS WHERE US FIRMS INVOLVED ARE:

AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT
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TURNKEY HOSPITAL-DEVELOPMENT,
STAFFING AND ADMINISTRATION
DESALINIZATION
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS
REFINERY CONSTRUCTION
AUTO & TRUCK ASSEMBLY
PETROCHEMICALS
STEEL

ROAD CONSTRUCTION
PORT CONSTRUCTION
NUCLEAR POWER REACTORS KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE004029
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KKOLB:CEK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750007-1127
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750169/aaaacidw.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NEW DELHI 17286
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 AUG 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <11 SEP 2003 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AGENDA FOR ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL SUBCOMMISSION MEETING
TAGS: EGEN, IN, US
To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006